I. Grey believes that you, Bethmann and the Kaiser desired peace, but he thinks the military element wanted war and pushed you on.

J. Nothing of the sort. Tirpits was on holiday and was not consulted. Nor was Moltke consulted till the end. The control of our policy was entirely in civilian hands.

I. I regret you only put pressure on Austria so late.

J. That would have been time enough if Russia had not made war inevitable. We had warned Russia of the effects of such a step. We did put pressure on Austria, but Grey never tried to hold Russia back.

J. Grey says he had no *locus standi.* We were not allies, and he could do nothing more after the rejection of his plan for a conference. He says, you were the people to hold Austria back, as you were allies. He thinks there was no danger of you losing Austria if you had taken a strong line, for she could not do without you.

/. That is not the case. She could make friends with France, and then reach some agreement with Russia about the Near East.

I. Any such arrangement would have been a triumph for Russia. We think you could and should have pressed Austria more strongly, ,just as you think we could and should have pressed Russia. Each of us feared the loss of our friend or ally. The European system was the main cause of the war. Germany was dragged in by Austria, England and France by Russia. It was an East European quarrel.

/. That is so.